

REMARKS

Applicants make this Preliminary Amendment in order to present, for examination, nine independent claims, two each of the method, system and medium type. Claims 1-10, 21-29, 35, 37-50 and 60-63 have been withdrawn. Applicants submit herewith new system Claims 64-73, which substantially correspond to method Claims 11-20. Applicants further submit new method Claims 74-79, which substantially correspond to system Claims 30-34 and 36. Applicants herewith submit new medium Claims 80-85, which also substantially correspond to system Claims 30-34 and 36.

Finally, applicants submit independent Claims 86-88, one each of a system, method and medium, which broadly but patentably define the invention for reasons expressed in the accompanying Petition to Make Special.

Applicants also take this opportunity to change the dependency of Claim 18 to depend from Claim 11 and to change the dependency of Claim 59 to depend from Claim 58. Applicants have noticed that for some reason, Claims 34 and 36 were published with the word "ace" in them despite these claims having been originally submitted with the word "age" appearing after "retirement". Assuming that the claims as published correspond to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's electronic version of same, Applicants have made amendments to Claims 34 and 36 to change "ace" back to "age".

As submitted, Applicants believe that the claims define over the prior art for reasons expressed in the accompanying Petition to Make Special. Applicants therefore look forward to a preliminary interview with the Examiner and the Examiner's early action on the merits of these claims.

No fee is thought to be due in conjunction with the submission of this Preliminary Amendment. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 18-2284 of Piper Rudnick LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

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